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through all the troubled history of Holland down to the nineteenth century. The second part is devoted to substantive law and forms a very complete commentary. This book is to be recommended to anyone having business or legal dealings with Holland, or any of the South African states or Dutch colonial possessions.

S. B. S.

THE SCIENCE OF JURISPRUDENCE. A TREATISE IN WHICH THE GROWTH OF POSITIVE LAW IS UNFOLDED BY THE HISTORICAL METHOD AND ITS ELEMENTS CLASSIFIED AND DEFINED BY THE ANALYTICAL. By Hannis Taylor, LL. D. New York: The MacMillan Company. 1908. Price, \$3.50 net. Pp. LXV—676.

It is refreshing to find a book of the scope of that before us among the mass of works on a single branch of the law, or on the law of a single limited jurisdiction, which continually pour from the press. The author is thoroughly imbued with the modern scientific spirit and makes full use of modern scientific methods. These methods are comparative and generic. With their aid the author proposes to examine all law and extract the fundamental principles, thus creating a true science of jurisprudence. Casting his eye over this wide field he discovers that the world has produced only five distinct systems of law, the Roman, the English, the Mohammedan, the Hindoo and the Chinese, and throws aside the last three as of no interest to the civilized world. Of the two remaining systems, Roman and English, a detailed and interesting history is given. The two chapters treating of the external history of Roman law and the external history of English law form the heart of the book and together compose about two-thirds of its contents. The general thesis of the book is that the permanent part of the Roman law is its body of private law, while on the other hand the glory and crown of the English system is its public and governmental law, and this is destined to remain. The conclusion is that the typical state of the future will have a government and a body of public law after the English model and a body of private law taken mainly from the Roman. France, Louisiana and the South American states are cited as examples of this amalgamation of the two systems.

The author of this work is also the discoverer of the pamphlet first published in 1783 by Pelatiah Webster on which rests that writer's claim to be considered the inventor of the

basic principles of the Constitution of the United States. The pamphlet is printed as an appendix and considerable groundwork is laid for it in the text. The claim has given rise to considerable controversy which cannot be entered here for lack of space. However, the present volume is in no wise injured by the inclusion of this matter and if the criticism of the future justifies the importance given to it, this work will be the more authoritative for having it.

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